Library (II)

BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1956

BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1956

BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH

His Worship the Mayor - Councillor G.Quinn, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1956/57

Councillor E.Molyneaux, J.P., Chairman
Councillor J.A.Crofton, Vice-Chairman
Alderman J.B.Marsden
" A.Pimlott
" A.L.Williams, J.P., C.C.
Councillor F.I.Airey
" M.Baker
" H.Evans
" W.E.Froggatt
" W.Newton
" W.Watkins

Town Clerk - C.A.Cross, M.A., LL.B., D.P.A.,
Barrister-at-Law

Officers of the Public Health Department:

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.H.T.Wade, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

L.T.J.Trippier, Cert.R.S.H., N.R.P.,Cert.,
Certified Meat and Food Inspector

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E.Wheeler, Cert. R.S.H.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J.Heaton

SENIOR CLERK

E.Tonge (Commenced 17th September, 1956)
(R.Eatough resigned 31st July, 1956)

SHORTHAND TYPIST/CLERK

Mrs.N.Raven

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
PRESTWICH.

July, 1957

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1956 on the health and sanitary conditions of the district.

The population according to the Registrar General's estimate was 33,750, which again shows a slight decrease compared with the previous year.

The *adjusted live birth rate was 13.0 per thousand of the population, and when allowance is made for the persons in the Prestwich Hospital the adjusted rate becomes 14.2 per thousand. This rate is lower than the national rate which was 15.7 per thousand.

Similarly the adjusted death rate after making allowance for the hospital population was 10.0 compared with the national rate of 11.7.

The total deaths in the district numbered 557. Thirty per cent were due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. In addition 12% of the deaths were due to coronary heart disease and 12% to diseases of the blood vessels in the brain. Thus the total percentage of deaths due to diseases of the heart and blood vessels was 54%.

Malignant disease, that is cancer and other tumours, was responsible for 19% of the deaths. Respiratory infections, that is Influenza, Pneumonia and Bronchitis, only caused 7% of the deaths. Cancer of the lungs caused 15 male and 6 female deaths.

There were eight infant deaths, four of which occurred during the first week of life and four which occurred at two weeks, one month, four months and seven months respectively.

The infant death rate of 19 per thousand compared favourably with the national rate which was 23.8 per thousand.

There was one maternal death.

Infectious diseases were mainly Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever and there were no deaths.

There were two cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis during the year, but they made a complete recovery.

There was one case of Food Poisoning in which two people, father and son, were involved. The details of the case are given later in the report.

There were 18 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis and two cases of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis and two deaths, excluding those which occurred in the Prestwich Hospital.

All samples of milk taken for examination for Tuberculosis and bacteriological content were satisfactory.

Water supplies from the three Water Boards were generally satisfactory.

Smoke pollution in Prestwich, which is mainly a residential area, is due to domestic smoke and a considerable influx of industrial smoke from large factories and works in the surrounding area.

Two sets of apparatus issued by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for measuring the amount of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere, have been installed, one in the Health Department and the other at Butterstile Lane reservoir, by kind permission of the Manchester Corporation Waterworks Committee. This apparatus makes a continuous 24 hour record. The amount of solids in the air is measured by passing the air through a filter paper and the amount of sulphur dioxide is estimated chemically.

The council have approved a byelaw in accordance with section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, in regard to heating and cooking appliances for new buildings, and they have also declared Butt Hill estate as a smoke controlled area.

Particular attention has been paid during the year to the observance of the Food Hygiene Regulations and all food premises have been frequently inspected.

At the time of writing this report the first Housing Inquiry under the council's Clearance Scheme has now been held. Some thirty dwellinghouses, together with one dwellinghouse and a lock-up shop, were submitted for clearance and, before the Inquiry was actually held, all opposition by the owners was withdrawn.

During the year 11 houses, 24 flats and 16 maisonettes were completed by the council and 22 houses and 11 flats by private enterprise. At the end of the year there were 27 houses under construction by private enterprise. There were no housing schemes in hand but the council contemplates building 15 flats and 4 old people's bungalows.

There were one hundred applicants for rehousing on the priority list at December 31st and a total of 534 on the general waiting list.

I would like to express my thanks to the members of the council, officers and staff for their continued help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

C.H.T.WADE,

Medical Officer of Health.

* "adjusted" means corrected to a standard population for the purpose of comparison with other districts.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area - 2,420 acres.
Population - Registrar General's estimate of:-
Home population mid 1956 33,750
Number of inhabited houses, according to Rate Books,
at end of 1956 10,617
Rateable value 1956 - £360,975
Sum represented by a penny rate - £1,446

Social conditions are generally good, the area is mainly residential and the chief industries are bleaching, dyeing and finishing, and the manufacture of soap and toilet requisites.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live births	(Legitimate....	402	193	209	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1956
	(Illegitimate..	11	5	6	
		413	198	215	Crude 12.2
					Adjusted 13.0
Stillbirths		13	9	4	Rate per 1,000 (live and still)births - 31
Deaths		557	253	304	Death rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1956
					Crude 16.5
					Adjusted 12.5

From the 1st January, 1953, all deaths occurring in the Prestwich Hospital have been assigned to Prestwich instead of being transferred to the area of the patient's home address, as in previous years. The total deaths for 1956 and the mortality rates are therefore higher. From the total of 557 deaths occurring during the year, 152 were in the Prestwich Hospital.

Prestwich Residents

Estimated population 33,750 less Prestwich Hospital residents (3,100 approx.) = 30,650
Mortality rates per 1,000 estimated population:
Total deaths (all forms) - 405 (351 in 1955)
Crude 13.2 (11.4 in 1955) adjusted 10.0 (10.9 in 1955)
Respiratory Tuberculosis - 0.07 (0.09 in 1955)

Prestwich M.B.	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1956	413	*12.2	557	*16.5	13	31	1	2.35	8	19	5	12
Year 1955	402	11.9	511	15.1	10	24	1	2.43	8	20	7	17
1954	417	12.3	459	13.6	16	37	1	2.31	4	10	4	10
1953	414	12.1	473	13.9	11	26	-	-	10	24	8	19
1952	423	12.4	355	10.4	14	32	-	-	8	19	7	17
1951	434	12.6	432	12.6	15	33	-	-	9	21	7	16
Average 5 years 1951-1955	-	12.3	-	13.1	-	30.4	-	0.95	-	18.8	-	15.8

* Adjusted (live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.06) = 13.0 per 1,000
(death-rate (comparability factor, 0.76) = 12.5 per 1,000

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1956

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	3
Syphilitic Disease	2	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Disease	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	15	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	13
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	23	27
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
Diabetes	-	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	45
Coronary disease, angina	44	25
Hypertension with heart disease	2	11
Other heart diseases	52	79
Other circulatory disease	10	13
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	4	2
Bronchitis	15	12
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1
Congenital malformations	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	21	30
Motor vehicle accidents	4	2
All other accidents	2	9
Suicide	3	2
	253	304
Total ...	557	

The above table includes 154 deaths in Prestwich Hospital
(88 males and 66 females)

SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, is the responsible authority for the provision and maintenance of local health services such as Child Welfare, Mental Health, Care of School Children, and Care of the Aged.

The Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity and Child Welfare Services provided by the County Council are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme by the Divisional Health Committee No.12 from headquarters in Bury.

Hospital facilities are provided and maintained through the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committees. Patients are admitted without regard to local authority boundaries.

The Borough Council is responsible for the provision of the remainder of local health services, and the whole of those matters likely to affect or be concerned with the maintenance of high standards of environmental health. These services include:-

Control of Infectious Disease (including food poisoning).
Provision of suitable Water Supplies.
Control of food and food preparing premises (including the sampling of milk, ice-cream and other foodstuffs for bacteriological examination).
Provision of sanitary accommodation to houses, factories, shops and other premises, and the provision of public sanitary conveniences.
Inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation.
Detection and prevention of nuisances.
The prevention of atmospheric pollution.
Control of rat, mouse and insect infestations.
Control of cleansing, disposal of refuse and sewage.

The examination of milk, water, ice-cream and samples of other foods, and the examination of pathological specimens is undertaken without charge to the Borough by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

SECTION C. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There was a marked decrease in the total notifications for 1956, compared with 1955 (257 against 664). Measles showed the heaviest decrease (84 against 491), while Scarlet Fever dropped to 40 from 45, but there was an increase in Whooping Cough of 75 against 22.

There were three Respiratory Tuberculosis cases and one Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis case notified from the Prestwich Hospital out of the 21 Respiratory and three Non-Respiratory notifications received.

There were two notifications of Paralytic Poliomyelitis during the year. The first case affected a 24 year old housewife with severe paralysis, whilst the second affected a four year old girl with slight paralysis. The housewife was in hospital for two months and the girl was in hospital for one month. They have both made a satisfactory recovery.

There was only one case of Food Poisoning during the year. Two people, a father and son, were involved. The son was taken ill and Food Poisoning was suspected. Faeces specimens were taken from the members of the household, comprising father, mother and son. Salmonella typhi-murium was isolated from faeces specimens submitted by father and son, but despite a full and exhaustive investigation the source of the infection remains unknown.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 and 1951 - SECTION 47.

The above section gives power to the Medical Officer of Health to remove persons who are in need of care and attention. It was not necessary to take any action under this Section during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During 1956 immunisation sessions were held at the School Clinic and Child Welfare Centre, Beech House, Bent Lane, on alternate Tuesday mornings, and at Rainsough Clinic every month. The Clinics are under the control of the Lancashire County Council, Divisional Health Committee No.12.

Appended below are figures showing the number of children who received primary or reinforcement injections during 1956 and who had completed a course of primary immunisation at any time up to the 31st December, 1956.

1. Number of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1956:

Age at date of final injection									
0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	Total under 5 years	5-	10-	Total aged 5-14 inclusive	Total aged 15 & over
208	94	17	4	4	327	14	2	16	-

2. Number of individuals who were given a reinforcement injection during 1956, i.e. subsequent to complete course:

Age group	0-	5-	10-14 incl.	Total 0-14 incl.	Total aged 15 and over
	36	151	89	276	-

3. Number of children who had completed a course of primary immunisation at any time up to 31.12.56:

Age at 31.12.56 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1956	1-4 1952-55	5-9 1947-51	10-14 1942-46	Total under 15
Number immunised	50	1207	2010	1456	4723

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1956

Notifiable diseases	Total cases at all ages	Total cases notified 0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 and over	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	40	-	-	3	35	2	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	75	4	3	19	48	1	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding rubella)	84	4	8	12	54	4	1	1	-	-	-
Dysentery	12	-	1	2	2	2	-	4	-	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia Primary & Influenzal	14	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	4	4	6
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
*Tuberculosis-respiratory	21	2	-	-	3	-	6	-	8	2	**12
*Tuberculosis-non respiratory	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	257	11	12	37	143	10	10	11	16	7	18

* The following cases included in the above figures occurred in the Prestwich Hospital:-
Tuberculosis Respiratory - 3
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory - 1

** Includes 11 deaths in Prestwich Hospital.

SECTION D. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
PRESTWICH.

July, 1957

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

I have the honour to present to you the following report on the public health circumstances and work carried out in the borough for the year ended 31st December, 1956.

During the year 885 complaints were made to the department relating to housing and sanitary defects, unsound and contaminated food, atmospheric pollution, and other matters of a varied nature which are referred to in the report.

A total of 1,086 sanitary defects or nuisances were discovered and 896 abated. The number of informal notices served was 175, and statutory notices numbered 26.

Legal action was taken on two occasions during the year in connection with housing defects. In the first case an order was made requiring the owner to carry out the work in twenty eight days and pay the costs of the summons. In the second case an order was made against the owner for the work to be carried out within twenty eight days.

Frequent inspections of food premises were made during the year to ascertain that the Food Hygiene Regulations were being complied with.

In fifty-eight cases the attention of the shopkeeper was drawn to various matters which required attention, and re-inspection has shown that these have been satisfactorily complied with.

The Rodent Operator has again been kept fully occupied investigating complaints of rodent infestation. Treatments were carried out on 271 premises and 1,147 visits were made in connection with infestation and investigation.

The two sewer treatments on the Corporation's public sewers again showed only small takes. The Prestwich Hospital sewers were also treated twice, and only very slight infestation was found.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

L.T.J.TRIPPIER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The area is supplied with water by the following three authorities:- (1) Manchester Corporation Waterworks; (2) Irwell Valley Water Board; and (3) Heywood and Middleton Water Board.

During the year eight samples were obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination, and all were reported as satisfactory.

Six samples of water were submitted for chemical analysis, and proved satisfactory, the amount of lead being less than 0.1 parts per million.

The water supplied from a private deep well to a farm in the Simister area, which is not connected to the public main, was sampled on two occasions for bacteriological examination, and twice for chemical analysis. The bacteriological and chemical reports were satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Disposal Works, Buckley Lane, Prestwich, in detritus and precipitation tanks (using alumino ferric), afterwards passing through percolating filters to humus tanks, and thence the effluent is discharged into the River Irwell. Sludge drying beds are provided. Storm tanks are provided for storm water in excess of three times the dry weather flow; this water is later passed through the works for treatment. Storm flows, in excess of six times the dry weather flow, pass over the storm water overflows direct to the river. Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for extensions and alterations to the present sewage disposal works to cope with the increased flow in the district.

Simister, which is a semi-rural district away from the main sewer, is dealt with in three methods:-

(1) Part of the area is drained to a small disposal works, consisting of a settlement tank and percolating filter. The effluent is discharged into Whittle Brook watercourse;
(2) Another area is drained into a large septic tank, the effluent from this is also discharged into the Whittle Brook watercourse;
(3) Other parts of the district drainage are dealt with by individual septic tanks and cesspools.

In other low lying areas of the town pumping stations are provided.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

	1956	1955
Middens	Nil	Nil
Closets attached to middens	Nil	Nil
Pail closets	70	70
Fresh water closets	11313	11269
Waste water closets	9	11
Moveable dustbins	11407	11363
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets	2	2
Pail closets converted to fresh water closets	Nil	1
Privy closets converted to fresh water closets	Nil	Nil
Number of houses at which moveable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles	Nil	Nil

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The local authority carry out a normal collection of refuse every seven/eight days from all premises in the district. Trade refuse is collected one day per week. There is a special salvage collection every Tuesday. Dennis freighters are employed on refuse collection. The Council have a modern salvage and refuse disposal plant. A Dennis cesspool and gully emptier is provided for cesspool cleansing.

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Mechanical and non-mechanical factories have been visited to ensure that they complied with the requirements of the Acts. There are no factories in the area that employ outworkers. Lists were received from neighbouring authorities giving the names and addresses of 65 outworkers and all of these have been visited and conditions found to be satisfactory.

Close co-operation has been maintained with H.M.Inspector of Factories. The report required under the provisions of section 128 of the Factories Act, 1937, is given on pages 13 and 14.

SMOKE ABATEMENT AND ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The prevention of atmospheric pollution again received attention during the year. Routine visits were made to factories and advice was given to boilermen and factory managers where necessary. Nineteen smoke observations were taken, and no further action was necessary.

The Prestwich Corporation is represented on the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee. Two sulphur dioxide deposit recorders are sited in the district for observations by representatives of the Committee.

Two volumetric analysers for recording atmospheric pollution have been installed. One is in the Public Health Department and the other is at the Butterstile Lane reservoir, and detailed daily records are taken and recorded.

BUG INFESTATION.

During the year two cases of bug infestation were dealt with. The two houses concerned were fumigated by a private fumigation company with absorbed hydrogen cyanide gas.

The houses and furniture of all prospective council house tenants are inspected before tenancies are commenced. In the case of infested houses the premises are disinfected prior to removal. The Housing Representative and Public Health Inspector visit the premises and advice is given to the tenants.

INSECTS.

During the year the department's attention was called to nuisances arising from the presence of crickets, beetles, moths and wasp infestation. Liquid and powder insecticides dealt effectively with the crickets, beetles and moths, but gassing measures with Cymag poison gas were necessary in the case of wasp infestation, after which the nests were destroyed.

DISINFECTION.

Disinfection in cases of infectious disease is carried out by formalin spray or formalin vapour only in those premises where it is considered necessary by the Medical Officer of Health.

Infected bedding and articles suitable for steam disinfection are removed and dealt with at the Steam Disinfection Station provided by the council at the Refuse Disposal Works.

Disinfection is carried out by a workman attached to the Public Health Department.

The following disinfections were carried out during 1956:- Rooms - 21; Articles of bedding and clothing - 77; Public library books - 38.

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The council employ a full-time Rodent Operator, and all complaints of infestation are investigated and a treatment carried out if necessary. Investigations are also made of tips, allotments, etc. to ensure that reinfestations have not arisen since the last treatment.

There has been close co-operation with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whose help and advice has been readily given.

The treatment of rodent infestations in private dwellinghouses is carried out as a free service to the public, but a charge is made for treatments carried out in business premises or on agricultural property.

The following is an analysis of the various types of infestation treated during 1956 :-

	Business premises	Dwelling houses	Corporation self-occupied property	Total
Rats.				
Type of infestation				
Major	1	Nil	3	4
Minor	20	13	2	35
Mice.				
Major	1	1	Nil	2
Minor	23	75	Nil	98

The Rodent Operator made 1147 visits in the course of investigations or treating infestations.

SEWER MAINTENANCE TREATMENTS.

During the year the following treatments were carried out in accordance with the methods and instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

First Treatment (Financial year 1956/57).

Test baiting was commenced on the 3rd April and completed on the 12th April, 1956.

Number of manholes test baited 208
" " " showing prebait take 17

The 10% test showed slight infestation in nine scattered areas, and the poison treatment was commenced on the 16th April and completed on the 21st April, 1956.

Number of manholes baited 125
" " " showing prebait take 34

Second Treatment (Financial Year 1956/57).

Commenced on 29th October and completed on 9th November, 1956.

Number of manholes baited 98
" " " showing prebait take 25

This treatment resulted in takes being found in only four of the areas previously treated in April, and this was only of a slight nature.

PRESTWICH HOSPITAL.

In addition to the public sewers two treatments were carried out on the private sewers at the Prestwich Hospital. A total of 69 manholes were test baited and infestation found at two points. The first treatment followed, and there were no takes in the main part of the hospital and only five takes were found at the annexe. The second treatment was carried out in December and only two takes were found in the annexe, the infestation being of only a light nature.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS 1956

Premises		Inspections
Conversions - Waste water to fresh water closets		6
Drains		256
Dustbins - Defective		56
Dwellinghouses - re overcrowding		54
" - re dirty condition		16
" - re infectious disease		93
" - re verminous conditions		17
" - under Housing Acts & Public Health Acts		973
Food control		11
Notices served - Preliminary		175
- Statutory		26
Outworkers		65
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act		76
Piggeries		7
Public and other conveniences		131
Sampling - Milk, water, ice-cream		43
Schools - re sanitary accommodation		11
Shops - re meat		7
" - re other foods		28
Smoke observations		19
Special complaints		27
Septic tanks		9
Tenancy inspections		275
Tips, refuse		87
Water courses		16
Miscellaneous		121
Rag flock		9
Pet animals		5
Explosives		47
Petroleum		31
Factories - No mechanical power used		6
" - Mechanical power used		52
Ice-cream		44
Offices,etc.		14
Places of public entertainment		2
Shops		222
Food Hygiene Regulations		102
Contraventions - Factories	Found	Abated
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	1	1
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accn.	-	-
Contraventions - Shops		
Dirty and/or defective w.cs.	2	2
Not closing half-day weekly (full)	2	2
Notice re half-day closing not displayed	3	3
Premises defective and dirty	7	7

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	No. on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Number of Written notices (5)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	1	11	6	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	2	70	52	4	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	3	5	5	Nil	Nil
Total		86	63	4	Nil

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. cases in which defects found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred: By H.M. Inspector (6)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
Want of cleanliness (s.1.)	4	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (s.2)	5	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (s.3)	6	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (s.4)	7	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.6)	8	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (s.7)						
(a) Insufficient	9	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not incl. offences relating to outwork)	12	-	-	-	-	-
Total	60	2	2	-	-	-

SECTION E. HOUSING.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Semi-detached houses are the most prevalent type in the district, usually between five and forty years' old. The older type terraced property exists in parts of the district, and the corporation's slum clearance proposals submitted to the Ministry cover 298 premises in fourteen areas over the next ten years.

It is found that there is a reluctance on the part of owners to carry out anything but essential repairs to their property, due to financial limitations. In a few cases where the owner has increased the rent the tenant has applied for a certificate of disrepair, and eight such certificates were granted during the year.

Two applications were made by owners for certificates of revocation; one was granted and the other one was refused.

The number of persons registered for rehousing at the end of the year was 534, and 100 of these were on the priority list. Approximately two-thirds of the applicants required two bedroomed houses, and the remaining number the three bedroomed type. There was also a small percentage requiring one bedroomed flats.

During 1956 the local authority erected 16 maisonettes, 11 houses and 24 flats, all on the Carr Clough Estate. 22 houses and 11 flats were erected during the year by private builders. At the end of the year there were no further housing schemes in hand but it is contemplated that a further 15 flats will be erected on the Kersal Road site and 4 old people's bungalows in Scholes Walk.

There is now a shortage of sites for building purposes until redevelopment schemes are carried out.

Overcrowding.

Numerous investigations were made into alleged moral overcrowding and lack of bedroom accommodation at the request of the Housing Department. No cases of legal overcrowding were found, but moral overcrowding existed in a few cases, and insufficient bedroom accommodation was found due to recently married young persons taking up residence in their parents' homes, or when there were children of both sexes growing up in the same family.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

(1)(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	326
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	809
(2) Dwellinghouses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit...	
(a) Number found during year	3
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year (slum clearance areas)	298
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	5

2. CLEARANCE AREAS (HOUSING ACT, 1936, AND HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954):

(1) Number of dwellinghouses demolished during year	
(a) Unfit houses	None
(b) Other houses	None
(2) Number of persons displaced	None

3. HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS:

	Number of Houses	Number of Persons displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during year:		
(a) Housing Act, 1936 -		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (s.11) ...	4	11
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under s.11 and still in force	None	None
(iii) Parts of building closed (s.12).	None	None
(b) Housing Act, 1949 -		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under ss.3(1) and 3(2) ..	None	None
(c) Local Government(Miscellaneous Provisions)Act, 1953:		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under ss.10(1) and 11(2).	1	2
(2) Repairs during the year:		
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts.....	64	
(b) Public Health Acts - action after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied -		
(i) By owners.....	8	
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	1	
(c) Housing Act, 1936 - action after service of formal notice (ss.9,10,11 and 16). Houses made fit -		
(i) By owners	None	
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	None	
(d) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954: Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and demolition orders revoked (s.5)	None	

4. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954):

(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under s.7	None
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	None
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (s.6)	None

5. HOUSING ACT, 1949 - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, ETC:

Action during year:	Private bodies or individuals		Local authority	
	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	11	11	-	-
(b) Approved by local authority	2	2	-	-
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(e) Work completed	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
* (g) Any other action taken under the Act (give brief particulars)	9 of the above schemes were not approved.			

SECTION F. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food shops, cafes, food preparing premises and hawkers' vehicles have been inspected to ensure that proper standards of food hygiene were being maintained. No opportunity is lost in giving advice to food handlers on the correct methods of dealing with the preparation or sale of food from their premises. It has not been necessary to take any action under the Food Byelaws, 1950, against any person contravening the regulations.

The following lists give details of the various types of food premises in the borough, and the number of businesses registered for the sale of ice-cream or preserved foods:-

Type of business	
General grocers and provision dealers	88
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	27
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc).	8
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc).....	33
Bakers and/or confectioners	23
Fried fish shops	13
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	44
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	53
Others	15
	304

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955/56

Particular emphasis has been laid on compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and the attention of shopkeepers drawn to various items which required attention. These items are listed hereunder:-

Items which required attention	Number
Wash hand basins	44
Food rooms requiring cleaning	12
Food rooms requiring redecoration	15
Rooms not suitable for storage of food	7
Structural defects in food rooms	6
Defective w.c. compartments and urinals	7
Washing facilities, e.g. sink required	7
Accommodation for clothing	9
First aid outfits required	10
Defective equipment	2
Defective floors	2
Screens required to ice-cream conservers	12
Defective drainage system	1

There are 23 hawkers of food registered by the local authority and frequent inspections have been made of their vehicles to ascertain that the required standards were being maintained.

Type of business	Legislation under which registration effected	No.regd. at 31.12.56	No. of inspections of regd. premises during year
Preparation or manufacture of preserved foods,etc.			
Butchers	Lancashire County Council(Rivers Board & General Powers) Act, 1938	10	
Butchers	Food & Drugs Act, 1938	4	
Grocery & provisions		2	
Sale and manufacture of ice-cream.			
Cafes & snack bars	Lancashire County Council(Rivers Board & General Powers) Act, 1938	1	159
Sale of ice-cream.			
Sweets and/or tobacconists	-do-	24	
Cafes etc.		3	
Grocery & provisions		20	
Confectioners		1	
Greengrocers		1	
Sweets and/or tobacconists	Food & Drugs Act, 1938	12	
Grocery & provisions		7	
Confectioners		1	
Cafes etc.		1	

ADULTERATION, ETC.

Sampling under Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-1950.

The Lancashire County Council administer the above, and I am indebted to Dr. S. C. Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following particulars of samples taken within the district.

A total of 184 samples was obtained, consisting of 131 samples of milk (including nine of Channel Islands Milk) and 52 samples other than milk, comprising the following:-

1 Liquid vegetable extract	1 Self-raising flour
1 Orange juice, canned	1 Pearl barley
1 Fruit, canned	1 Bacon
1 Vegetable, canned	4 Penicillin tablets B.P.
3 Flour, plain	2 Bread
2 Glycerin	1 Cream, canned
2 Gravy browning	1 Fresh cream, carton
2 Pickles	1 Cough medicine
1 Fresh Fruit	1 Tartaric acid
1 Goulash with potatoes, canned	2 Butter
1 Pickled herrings in lemon juice	1 Borax
1 Ice-cream	1 Chocolate laxative
2 Biscuits	1 Coffee beverage
1 Olive oil	1 Blauds pills
1 Castor oil	1 Cola flavoured candies
1 Amphetamine inhaler	1 Double cream
1 Cream cheese	1 Ground almonds
1 Shortcake	2 Lard
3 Dried herbs	1 Acetic acid (concentrated)

In addition to the above, one sample of concentrated orange squash was submitted direct to the County Analyst.

All the above samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst who reported that they were genuine with the exception of the following:-

Sample No.	Type	Result of analysis	Action taken
E.6694	Pickled herrings in fresh lemon juice.	Incorrect list of ingredients on label.	Packers communicated with.
E.7195	Cream cheese.	Fat 13.5%, moisture 71.6%. Consisted of curd and sour milk cheese and not cream cheese.	Vendor cautioned.
1/56	Orange squash concentrated.	Sample contained foreign matter.	Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent by Town Clerk to firm.
E.7763	Blauds pills.	Consisted of Blauds tablets.	No action taken.
E.7743	Double cream.	Sample was genuine but sour when submitted.	No action taken.
E.7907	Ground almonds.	Acid value of oil was 11.9. Sample had sour taste.	Referred for withdrawal of remaining stock.

FOOD CONDEMNED 1956

	Tins		Tins
Beans	20	Prunes	6
Tomatoes	173	Cranberries	35
Evaporated milk	47	Pilchards	8
Apricots	18	Apples	2
Peas	36	Crayfish	1
Fruit salad	6	Marmalade	1
Strawberries	6	Spaghetti	1
Pears	143	Mince pies	4
Peaches	28	Creamed rice	2
Plums	70	Oranges	35
Mince puddings	1	Vegetable salad	1
Soup	17	Pickles	20 jars
Tomato juice	1	Jam	2 "
Stewed steak	25	Lard	7 cases
Tuna fillets	1	Biscuits	4 tins/cartons
Pineapple	52	Rock	1 bag
Salmon	16	Wafers	1 box
Cherries	159	Nougat	1 box
Carrots	6	Angel cake	1
Full cream milk	10	Swiss rolls	1 case
Cream	4		
Grapefruit	13		

	Tins	Weight
Ox tongue	8	20 lbs.
Luncheon meat	113	93 lbs.
Corned beef	21	104 lbs.
Minced beef loaf	7	11 lbs.
Jellied veal	3	18 lbs.
Beef & tongue	1	2 lbs.
Chicken	16	55 lbs.
Shoulder ham	8	28 lbs.
Duck	4	15 lbs.

All the foodstuffs condemned during the year were voluntarily surrendered to the department by the food dealers concerned and were disposed of by incineration under supervision at the corporation's refuse disposal works.

ICE-CREAM SAMPLING.

During the year, forty-seven samples of ice-cream were obtained from persons retailing in the district. There is only one retailer manufacturing ice-cream, the remainder selling only prepacked. Appended below is a table showing results on the bacteriological examination of the samples of ice-cream submitted to the laboratory:-

Provisional grade ...	1	2	3	4
Number of samples ...	24	14	4	5

LOLLI-CREAMS.

In addition to the above, three samples of "Lolli-Kreams", a proprietary brand of lolli-creams, were submitted for bacteriological examination and faecal coliform organisms were isolated from the specimens. Copies of the report were sent to the Chief Public Health Inspector of the district in which these goods were manufactured and the firm withdrew all doubtful stocks. Follow-up samples were taken at a later date and found to be quite satisfactory.

MEAT SUPPLY.

Inspections were made of retailers' shops in the district, and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory, and it was not necessary to take any formal action. There are no registered slaughter houses in the district. There is one attached to the Prest-

wich Hospital which is used on occasions, and two slaughtermen's licences were renewed during the year of persons employed at the Hospital.

MILK SUPPLY.

(a) Licences:

The following licences under the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk)Regulations, 1949-54, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)Regulations, 1949-53, have been issued -

Tuberculin Tested Milk:	
Retail distributors	32
Pasteurised Milk:	
Retail distributors	45
Sterilised Milk:	
Retail distributors	44

(b) Dairies and milk shops:

At the end of the year there were 62 distributors of milk operating from -

(i) own dairies in the district	2
(ii) shops in the district other than dairies..	46
(iii)premises outside the district	14

All milk supplies in the borough of Prestwich have been regularly sampled by the County Council Officers during the year under report. In all 131 samples of heat treated milk were obtained from sources of supply which serve the borough, and all of these satisfied the prescribed tests.

From the 1st January, 1954, no raw milk other than tuberculin tested may be sold within the borough as Prestwich is included in the Milk(Special Designations)(Specified Areas)(No.3)Order, 1953, which allows only milk designated as "Pasteurised", "Sterilised" or "Tuberculin Tested" to be retained in the borough.

SECTION G. GENERAL.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no premises in the district used for the manufacture of rag flock or other filling materials. Three premises where filling materials are used have been registered.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Three licences were granted during the year for the keeping of a pet shop. Inspections were made to ensure that the premises and accommodation provided for the animals complied with the requirements of the Act.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM SPIRIT

Licences were granted to 21 firms for the keeping of petroleum to which the Petroleum Acts apply, and to six firms for cellulose solution, each licence being for the duration of twelve months.

All petroleum and cellulose is kept in underground steel tanks or separate stores, specially constructed of fire-proof material throughout, and the Regulations otherwise complied with.

GAME ACT, 1831

Three licences to deal in game were granted by the council.

PAWNBROKER'S LICENCE

One certificate was issued authorising the granting of a licence to carry on the business of pawnbroker.

BYELAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

	Dated
*New Streets and Buildings Byelaws	1926, amended in 1927 and 1931
Removal of Offensive Matter Byelaws	1st August, 1947
Nuisance Byelaws	1st August, 1947
Offensive Trades Byelaws	1st October, 1947
Good Rule and Government Byelaws	1st January, 1948
Hackney Carriage Byelaws	1st January, 1949
Prohibiting the Sale of Contraceptives in Slot Machines	25th January, 1950
Sale of Clean Food	30th May, 1950
Building Byelaws	15th June, 1953
Public Places and Streets(Prestwich) Order	1956

*Byelaws repealed except in so far as they relate to new streets.